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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/065,850	11/26/2002	Christian Maria Anton Heller	122023	3372

6147 7590 10/03/2005

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY
GLOBAL RESEARCH
PATENT DOCKET RM. BLDG. K1-4A59
NISKAYUNA, NY 12309

EXAMINER

DIAMOND, ALAN D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1753

DATE MAILED: 10/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/065,850

Applicant(s)

HELLER, CHRISTIAN MARIA
ANTON

Examiner

Alan Diamond

Art Unit

1753

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-50 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-50 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: ____.

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:
 - I. Claims 1-7, 12-18, 22-27, 35, 37, and 39, drawn to an electrode and device, classified in class 136, subclass 256.
 - II. Claims 8-11, 19-21, 28-34, 36, 38, and 40, drawn to an electrode and device, classified in class 136, subclass 256.
 - III. Claims 41-46, drawn to a method, classified in class 438, subclass 82.
 - IV. Claims 47-50, drawn to a method, classified in class 438, subclass 82.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

2. Inventions (I and II) and (III and IV) are related as process of making and product made. The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP § 806.05(f)). In the instant case, the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product, such as an inorganic electronic device, wherein all inorganic materials are used.
3. The invention of Group I is distinct from the invention of Group II because a prior art reference that anticipates or renders obvious the claimed electrode and device in Group I with an electrode comprising the instant elongated members cannot necessarily be used to anticipate or render obvious the electrode and device in Group II comprising a second layer of a second electrically conducting material having a conductivity less than the first layer. Likewise, a prior art reference that anticipates or renders obvious

the electrode and device in Group II comprising a second layer of a second electrically conducting material having a conductivity less than the first layer cannot necessarily be used to anticipate or render obvious the claimed electrode and device in Group I with an electrode comprising the instant elongated members.

4. The invention of Group III is distinct from the invention of Group IV because a prior art reference that anticipates or renders obvious the method in Group III with an electrode comprising the instant elongated members cannot necessarily be used to anticipate or render obvious the method in Group IV comprising a second layer of a second electrically conducting material having a conductivity less than the first and third electrically conducting materials. Likewise, a prior art reference that anticipates or renders obvious the method in Group IV comprising a second layer of a second electrically conducting material having a conductivity less than the first and third electrically conducting materials cannot necessarily be used to anticipate or render obvious the method in Group III with an electrode comprising the instant elongated members.

5. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, i.e., Groups I and II have a different classification from Groups III and IV restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

6. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group I is not required for Group II, III, or IV, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

7. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group II is not required for Group I, III, or IV, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

8. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group III is not required for Group I, II, or IV, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

9. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group IV is not required for Group I, II, or III, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

10. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alan Diamond whose telephone number is 571-272-1338. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 5:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. ET.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nam Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-1342. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Alan Diamond
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1753

Alan Diamond
September 26, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan Diamond', with a stylized flourish at the end.